

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A heat exchanger comprising:

a vacuum tube having an inner wall;

an inner tube adapted to hold a fluid, wherein an outer wall of the inner tube is arranged concentric to the inner wall of the vacuum tube;

at least one heat-conducting element made of metal connecting the inner wall of the vacuum tube to a fluid-conducting pipe system; and

means for collecting and concentrating solar energy provided on a side of the inner wall of the vacuum tube facing away from the at least one heat-conducting element, wherein an outer wall of the fluid conducting pipe system is a metal wall, wherein the at least one heat-conducting element is attached at the outer wall of the fluid-conducting pipe system and prestressed against the inner wall of the vacuum tube and the fluid-conducting pipe system, and in that each heat-conducting element extends in a spiral shape along a cross-section of the heat exchanger and covers an angle of at least 450 degrees.

Claims 10-14 (Cancelled)

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The heat exchanger as claimed in claim [[14]] 9, wherein the heat exchanger has two heat-conducting elements, wherein two of the heat-conducting elements are spaced apart from one another in an angular arrangement on an outer wall of the fluid-conducting pipe system over an angular range between 350 to 359 degrees or between 90 and 179 degrees.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The heat exchanger as claimed in claim 9, wherein the fluid-conducting pipe system comprises an outer volume and an inner volume operable in a counter-current mode.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The heat exchanger as claimed in claim 9, wherein the fluid is a heat-conducting fluid, and the fluid is contained within the inner tube.